

Message Text

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SUBJECT: IAEA/ARGONNE NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING COURSE

1. MISSION (GABBERT) IS AWARE THAT IAEA (CALORI) PROPOSED IN JANUARY 23 LETTER TO ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY (KANTER) IN CONNECTION WITH IAEA/US/ARGONNE NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING COURSE NOW UNDERWAY, THAT AMONG OTHER CHANGES, THE SUBJECT OF SAFEGUARDS SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN PRESENT COURSE.

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2. SYLLABUS FOR IAEA'S NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING COURSES WAS DEVELOPED OVER LONG PERIOD BY AGENCY'S INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH INCLUDED AGENCY STAFF MEMBERS AND, IN THIS INSTANCE, WAS ANNOUNCED TO ALL MEMBER STATES IN AUGUST 8, 1977, INVITATION TO COURSE.

3. THE ARGONNE SAFEGUARDS MODULE AS USED IN PREVIOUS

COURSES WITH AGENCY AGREEMENT AND TO BE USED IN PRESENT COURSE ENCOMPASSES THE FOLLOWING. QUOTE. THE OVERALL PROVISIONS, PROCEDURES, AND REQUIREMENTS OF AGENCY SAFEGUARDS FOR SNM AND NUCLEAR FACILITIES WILL BE COVERED. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGENCY SAFEGUARDS AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION WILL BE DISCUSSED. THE GENERAL PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN PLACING NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND FACILITIES UNDER AGENCY SAFEGUARDS AND THE ROLE OF THE AGENCY IN ENFORCING THE PROVISIONS WILL BE OUTLINED. END QUOTE. THIS IS NOT AN IN-DEPTH PRESENTATION AS THE AGENCY WOULD PROVIDE IN ITS SPECIALIZED SAFEGUARDS COURSES. HOWEVER, THE AGENCY/ANL NUCLEAR POWER COURSE SHOULD AT LEAST ENCOURAGE PLANNING FOR SAFEGUARDS BY PRESENTING A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SUBJECT TO TECHNICAL EXPERTS OR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN PLANNING NUCLEAR POWER PROJECTS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY. WE BELIEVE THAT SAFEGUARDS, INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, AND NUCLEAR MATERIAL CONTROL SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN A GENERAL WAY IN THIS COURSE SINCE IT IS NOT CERTAIN THE PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE EXPOSED TO SUBJECT MATTER IN OTHER AGENCY SPECIALIZED SAFEGUARDS COURSES. TO ELIMINATE THE IMPORTANT SUBJECT FROM THE AGREED PROGRAM, AFTER ITS INCLUSION IN THE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED SYLLABUS, MIGHT NOW RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CREDIBILITY OF THE US AND THE IAEA AS THE COURSE PLANNERS/ORGANIZERS.

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4. WE PROPOSE THAT THE SAFEGUARDS SECTION BE RETAINED IN THE PRESENT COURSE AS ADVERTISED. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE IAEA WILL PROVIDE LECTURE ON THIS SUBJECT AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED WITH ANL AND THAT IAEA LECTURER WILL PRESENT MATERIAL AS DEVELOPED BY IAEA ALONG LINES OF THE SYLLABUS. THE QUESTION WHETHER SAFEGUARDS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE COURSES COULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE MARCH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING COURSES OR IN SEPARATE US AGENCY BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

5. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO EXPLORE THIS QUESTION ON URGENT BASIS WITH IAEA, DRAWING ON ABOVE POINTS AS APPROPRIATE. EARLY ADVISE WILL BE APPRECIATED IN EVENT REVISIONS IN CURRENT COURSE MUST BE MADE OVER US OBJECTIONS. VANCE

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